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REPORT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL
UNITED NATIONS DECADE OF INTERNATIONAL LAW

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-first year

Letter dated 11 September 1996 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of a letter dated 11 September 1996 addressed to you by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq, Mr. Mohammed Said Al-Sahaf, concerning the continued violations by the United States forces of aggression of Iraq's sovereignty and the integrity of its airspace.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under items 11 and 147 of the provisional agenda of the fifty-first session, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Saeed H. HASAN
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

* A/51/150.

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Annex

Letter dated 11 September 1996 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq addressed to the Secretary-General

Pursuant to my letter to you of 10 September 1996, I should like to inform you that the United States of America is continuing to pursue its policy of hostility towards Iraq and that the United States forces of aggression and their supporters are continuing to violate Iraqi airspace. On 10 September 1996, 12 such violations were carried out over northern Iraq and 66 were carried out over southern Iraq. The aircraft which perpetrated these violations, with the support of AWACS reconnaissance aircraft, came from Turkey in the case of northern Iraq and from Saudi Arabia in the case of the south.

In addition to the fact that they constitute a flagrant attack on Iraq's sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence, these military activities contradict the Charter of the United Nations and the fundamental principles of international law.

I should like to take this opportunity to draw your attention also to the question of the two no-flight zones which the United States of America and the United Kingdom have imposed on Iraq and which the Iraqi Government has on numerous occasions said are the result of a unilateral act based on the continued use of armed force for the purpose of attacking Iraq's sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence, in violation of the Charter of the United Nations and international law. The Government of the Republic of Iraq holds the States which took this decision internationally accountable for the damage caused thereby to Iraq.

The Government of the Republic of Iraq calls upon the United Nations to assume its responsibility under the Charter and take the necessary steps to bring this aggression to a halt.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under items 11 and 147 of the provisional agenda of the fifty-first session, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Mohammed Said AL-SAHAF
Minister for Foreign Affairs
of the Republic of Iraq